

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The final Office Action dated October 14, 2005 and Advisory Action dated January 25, 2006, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 14-21 are withdrawn in this application. Claims 1, 2 and 5-11 are rejected and claims 3, 4, 12 and 13 are objected to by the Examiner. Claims 1-21 remain pending in this application.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 6-9 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,407,784 B1 to Kanou et al. (hereinafter "Kanou '784") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,784,957 B2 to Kanou et al. (hereinafter "Kanou '957"). Claims 2, 5 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanou '784 and Kanou '957 as applied in claims 1, 6-9 and 11, and further in view of applicant's related art (ARA).

The rejection of claims 1, 6-9, and 11 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claims 1, 6-9, and 11 are allowable over the cited references in that each of these claims recites a combination of elements including, for example, "wherein the first and second peak depression layers each overlap a predetermined area and have different heights." None of the cited references including Kanou '784 or Kanou '957, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 6-9, and 11 are allowable over the cited references.

Claims 2, 5, and 10 depend from allowable claim 1 because the additionally cited ARA does not cure the deficiencies of Kanou '784 and Kanou '957 identified above.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendment place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37.

C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. *A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.*

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 9, 2006

By


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